# Impossible Friends

Week of September 2, 2018

Daniel 1-3 & Mark 9 • Message 3

### Icebreaker

Have you ever conquered an "impossible" situation with a friend? Tell the story.

## Impossible Moment #1 • Daniel 2:1-20

As a group, summarize the main points of the story.

Even though this situation was high-stakes, it was also low-risk. That is, the king was planning to kill them anyway. They had nothing to lose by praying. What do you think of Daniel and his three friends?

## Impossible Moment #2 • Daniel 3:13-27

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego are the Babylonian names for Daniel's three friends. Different names but the same guys.

These three friends had already experienced miracles with Daniel in the lead, but at this moment, Daniel is not with them. What do you think of that?

What do you think of the way these three men replied to the king? What do you think motivated them to reply like they did?

While these three men were in the furnace, there was an "angel" present with them. It's possible the angel was a pre-incarnate manifestation of Jesus himself, but we can't be sure. Nonetheless, what does it mean to you that God chose to do this miracle by sending a person?

## Impossible Moment #3 • Mark 9:2-10

This event happens right after Jesus tells his disciples that he is going to Jerusalem to be killed. Clearly, he is preparing to face his own "impossible" moment, and as part of his final journey to the cross, this event takes place. We are never told why, though. On Sunday, I suggested that Peter, James, and John were there because Jesus was training them just like Daniel had trained his three friends. What do you think of that?

On Sunday, I suggested that Elijah and Moses were there because Elijah never died and Moses was the top candidate for being God's "best friend" (see Exodus 33:11 & 2 Kings 2:11). What do you think of that?

On Sunday, I suggested that the whole event happened because God, the Father wanted to give Jesus some encouragement through his friends. What do you think of that?

Jeff Mikels

**Lafayette Community Church** 



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